ablishers' del entin [Formerly the TRADE CIRCULAR.] With which is incorporated the

American Literary Gazette and Publishers' Circular.

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F. LEYPOLDT, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 37 PARK ROW, NEW YORK.

Vol. V. No. 13.

NEW YORK, Saturday, March 28, 1874.

WHOLE NO. 115.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE BRIC-A-BRAC SERIES.

Personal Reminiscences of Famous Poets and Novelists, Wits and Humorists, Artists, Actors, Musicians, and the Like.

EDITED BY

RICHARD HENRY STODDARD.

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Under the general title of "The Bric-a-Brac Series" Messrs. Scribner, Armstrong & Co. have in preparation a unique series of books, to be published at intervals, in which there shall be collected from the numerous biographies, autobiographies, and memoirs that have lately appeared, all the reminiscences worth preservation of the men and women who have done so much to make this century one of the most brilliant in the annals of English literature. Each volume will be complete in itself, and will contain a condensation of one or more of these biographies. A careful index will furnish a ready guide to the contents of the different volumes, in which, under the capable editorship of Mr. R. H. Stoddard, it may safely be asserted there will be brought together a fund of choice, fresh anecdote and gossip, enough not only to justify the general title of the series, but the line of Marlowe which has been selected as its motto, "Infinite riches in a little room." The first volume, which will be issued early in April, will contain all that American readers will care to have, from the autobiography of HENRY CHORLEY, for so many years the musical editor of the London Athenaum, from the recollections of J. R. PLANCHE, the veteran dramatist, and from the life of CHARLES MAYNE YOUNG, the tragedian. It will be entitled:

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From the London Spectator.

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From the London Saturday Review.

"Under the rather sensational title of 'Desperate Remedies' a remarkable story has been written by a nameless author. . . . The plot is worked out with abundant skill. Incidentally there are situations well fitted to enchain the fancy of the sincerest lover of melodrama, but not one of these is a purpureus pannus, stitched into a circumjacent groundwork of dullness, nor, when all are taken together, can it be said that of these is the essence of the book. The essence of the book is precisely what it ought to be, namely, the evolution of character. . . We will do the author the justice to say that no skeleton of his narrative can give anything like a just idea of the skill with which he has worked his story together. . . We sincerely hope to hear of him again, for his deserts are of no ordinary kind."

From the Nation. (Reviewing " Under the Greenwood Tree.")

"Such a charming little tale that those who are going off for the summer, and who are casting about for light reading appropriate for the season, cannot do better than slip this volume into their trunks. We have not read anything more fresh and good since making the acquaintance of Björnson's 'Arne'; or, to make a comparison which shall hint at a peculiar quality of the book, since we read Barnes' poetry of rural life. We hope the other novels of this author which are announced may follow soon."

From the London Spectator. (Reviewing " A Pair of Blue Eyes.")

"We have on two previous occasions noticed Mr. Hardy's stories, and we scarcely know whether we are now most impressed by our unexpected good fortune in his valuable accession to the higher ranks of modern novel-writing authors, or by the rapid strides which he has made, each time, in the direction of improvement. We did not spare his maiden work, because we saw marked evidences of true feeling and real power. . . . While his second work, "Under the Greenwood Tree," was a most picturesque portraiture of village life embodied in a pure and simple story, and illustrating in every line its author's keen and humorous perception of the thoughts and manners of a rural population, his third has risen to the rank of those which show, not only quick observation, and sparkling humor and true moral instinct, but a delicate and subtle analysis of varieties of character and moods of feeling, a poet's sympathy with human passion when tuned to its sweetest or saddest notes, and an artist's eye for every aspect of nature—sensitive to every puff of air, the veriest film of mist, or the merest thread of light."

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MARCH 28, 1874.

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Advertisements should reach the office of the Publishers' Weekly not later than Wednesday morning, but are desired as much earlier as possible.

Subscriptions and Advertisements, from England, re-ceived by B. F. Stevens, 17 Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London. Subscriptions from the European Continent filled by E. Steiger, 22 and 24 Frankfort Street, New York, and all German booksellers.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers to the PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY will please notice, on their printed address, the date indieating the expiration of their subscription, and notify us of any error made in printing.

No bills will hereafter be sent except to houses with whom we have an open account. If remittance is not made within a month after expiration, it will be understood that the paper is to be discontinued.

Remittances should be made by draft on New York, Post-office money order, or registered letter, as we cannot be responsible for any lesses.

The postage on the WEEKLY, which, if paid in advance, is 5 cents per quarter, or 20 cents per annum, must be paid by subscribers at their own post-office.

NOTES IN SEASON.

THE two art books by Sarah Tytler, just ready at Roberts Bros.', are spoken of as an entirely satisfactory condensed history of art. "The Old Masters and their Pictures" embraces from the thirteenth to the middle of the seventeenth century, whence "Modern Painters and their Paintings"—the title is too near Ruskin's, and should be changed—takes it up. A vast deal of information, excellently put, is crowded into these two

VICTOR HUGO's great novel of "Ninety-Three" is very nearly ready at the Harpers'. The sale will scarcely stop short of fifty thousand, and advance orders may safely be made large.

APPLETONS will issue April 9, the "Pickwick Papers," in the new English Household Edition; Upton's Cavalry Tactics, in the new series; and an important English work by Thompson Dickson, M.D., on "Medicine in Relation to Mind."

AT the same time with Eggleston's "Circuit Rider," the Fords will issue the two final volumes (nine and ten) of the original octavo series of "Beecher's Sermons," comprising sermons "Beecher's Sermons," comprising sermons preached from September, 1872, to September, 1873: a new series in 12mo form, beginning at the

latter time. Also, a new and enlarged edition of "Fruits, Flowers, and Farming," in which Mr. Beecher discusses the fact and fancy, poetry and prose, of his experience of farm and garden.

"WHAT IS DARWINISM?" Dr. Hodge's forthcoming book (Scribners), answers the query of its title from these sources: First, from Mr. Darwin's own writings; second, from the expositions given of the theory by its avowed advocates; and third, from the character of the objections urged against it by its opponents.

WARREN & WYMAN will soon publish a "Common Sense View of the Mode of Baptism," by Rev. Samuel Hutchings—a book, on the Pedo-baptist side, for practical use among those who are inquiring on that subject. It will also be a convenient manual for ministers, etc. Its appearance just now will be timely, as bearing on the question of open or restricted communion. The book will appear under the recommendation of a number of eminent clergymen of different denominations.

THE new "Life of Christ," by Rev. F. W. Farrar, to be issued in this country by E. P. Dutton & Co., will contain two original illustrations by Holman Hunt, not copies of previous paintings. The work will make two octavo volumes.

J. B. FORD & Co. have nearly ready "Toinette," a tale of Southern Life, by R. R. G., Dr. Edward Beecher's remarkable series of papers on the " History of Opinions on the Scriptural Doctrine of Retribution," and "The Mode of Man's Immortality; or the When, Where, and How of the Future Life," by Rev. T. A. Goodwin, A.M., author of "The Perfect Man," etc.

"ADINA" is the title of the new story by Henry James, Jr., to appear in Scribner's for May and Tune.

G. J. MOULTON has in preparation a translation from the German of La Mara's "Musikalische Gedanken-Polyphonie."

MR. F. B PATTERSON, 61 Liberty street, is shortly to reprint fac-similes of an old map of New York in 1728 (at \$1), and of the New York Directory of 1786-which should be of very general interest in this city.

DR. SANDERS, the German lexicographer, is issuing a German work corresponding to Roget's "Thesaurus," but following a division of his own instead of that of Roget, and of Robertson in his "Dictionnaire Idéologique," the French work The full title of the work is " Deutof the sort. scher Sprachschatz, geordnet nach Begriffen zur leichten Auffindung und Auswahl des passenden Ausbrucks. Ein stilistisches Hülfsbuch für jeden Deutschschreibenden."

"CRUEL CONSTANCY" and "The Queen of the Regiment," two novels by Katharine King, and several translations from Emile Gaboriau, are on the Osgoods' list of novels for the spring.

MRS. ALICE M. THOMPSON, of Boston, has written a narrative of European travels, called "A Woman's Vacation," which Lee & Shepard will publish.

ESTES & LAURIAT have in preparation a book called " One Hundred Representative Ministers," comprising biographies of American clergymen, famous and obscure, by Rev. T. L. Flood.

A NEW story by Miss Farquharson, author of " An Old-Fashioned Boy," etc., is promised by Dodd & Mead. It is called "Our Fred."

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BOOKS JUST PUBLISHED.

The Prices in this List are for cloth lettered, unless otherwise indicated. Imported Books are marked with an asterisk; Authors' and Subscription Books, or Books published at net prices, with two asterisks.

Arthius.—Treatment of Nervous and Rheumatic Affect Iniguez. See Vniguez.

Bir50l. — Sensational Character. A Sermon in West Church, Boston, Sunday, 15th Marcu, after Decease of Chas. Sumner. By C. A. Bartol. 8°, pp. 23. Pap. 25 c. Williams.

Beadle. —The Women's War on Whiskey. Its History, Theory, and Prospects. Embracing a comprehensive ac-count of the Rise and Progress of the Women's Temperance Movement, with Scenes and Incidents of the Campaign, and a Statement of the best mode of insuring Success. By J. H. Beadle, author of "Life in Utah," etc. With an introductory Article, and Statement of the conditions of success, by Dio Lewis. 12". 75 c.; pap. 50 c.

Wilstach, B. & Co.

Bigelow's Insurance Reports. Vol. 3. Reports of the Lite and Accident Insurance Cases, determined in the Courts of America, England, Ireland, Scotland, and Canada, down to January, 1874. With Notes and References. By Merville M. Bigelow, of the Boston Bar. 8°. Shp. \$7.50.

Hurd & H.

Blake. - Fettered for Life; or, Lord and Master. A Story of To-Day. By Lillie Devereux Blake. 12°. \$1.50;

Boyce.—Modern Ornamentor and Interior Decorator.
With colored plates. By A. P. Boyce, 4°. \$3.50.
Williams.

-Swallow Stories. By Sallie Chester. 12 vois. Chester .-Cont.:—Bobby's Teeth;—Helping Mamma;—Piay-Day;— Aunt Elizabeth;—Old Dog Tray;—Miss Rosy;—Lutle Teacher;—Lizzie;—Patient Gracie;—Thanksgiving:— Papa's Pet; — Marnie's Angel. 32°. \$3; per v. 25 c.

Am. Tract Soc.

-A Practical Treatise on the Law of Contracts not Seal, and upon the usual Defences to Actions thereon. By Joseph Chitty, Jr. 11th Am. from 9th Engl. ed. Much en arged by Hon. J. C. Perkins. 2 v. 8°. Shp.

City Sparrows, and Who Fed Them. 16°, pp. 269. \$1.25.

Clevenger .- A Treatise on the Method of Government Surveying as prescribed by the United States Congress and Commissioner of the General Land Office, with complete

*Curwen.-A History of Booksellers, the Old and the

D., A. M. See John Dane.

Engelhardt.—The American Rowing Almanac and Oarsman's Pocket Companion, 1874. By Fred J. Engelhardt, Boating Editor of "Turf, Field and Farm." 24". 50 c.; mor. \$1..... Eng. thardt.

Errors (The) of Prohibition. An Argument Delivered in Representatives Hall, Boston, April 3d, 1867, before a joint Special Committee of the General Court of Massachusetts.

Harrison. -- From Four to Fourteen. By Jenny Harrison. With 4 Illustr. 16°, pp. 294. \$1.25.... Am. Iract Soc. Hazlitt, W. C. See Lamb.

**Howard.—The Monumental City. Its past History and present Resources. By Geo. W. Howard. Illustr. with 93 wood-cuts of Public Buildings, Parks, Churches, etc., and including a large folded map of the city. 8°, \$2.50....(Baitimore.)

Howe. — Emergencies, and How to Treat Them. The Etiology, Pathology, and Treatment of the Accidents, Dis-

Hugo.—Ninety-Three. By Victor Hugo, author of "Toilers of the Sea," etc. Transl. by Frank Lee Benedict. 12°, pp. £ 356. \$1.75.....

Inman.-Ancient Pagan and Modern Christian Symbolism Exposed and Explained. By Thomas Inman, M.D., etc. (London). Illustr. with 16 plates and 172 cuts. Roy pp. 83. \$3.....

Ancient Faiths Embodied in Ancient Names; or, An Attempt to Trace the Reigious Belief, Social Rites, and Holy Emblems of Certain Nations by an Interpretation of the names given to Children by Priestly Authority, or Assumed by Prophets, Kings, and Hierarchs. By Thomas Inman, M.D., etc. (London). 2 vols. Illustr. 8°, pp. 1914. \$27....

Jefferson, Thomas. See Parton.

John Dane. By A. M. D. 12°, pp. 451. \$1.50,.... Hoyt.

*Lamb.—Mary and Charles Lamb. Their Poems, Letters, and Remains. Now first collected, with Reminscences and Notes. By W. Carew Hazlitt. With Portr. and numerous Illustr. Sm. 8°. \$5...Scribner, W. & A.

Murray.—Young Brown. By Grenville Murray, author of "The Member from Paris." (Osgood's Library of Novels, vol. 38.) Illustr. 8°, pp. 157. \$1.25; pap. 75 c... Osgood. Newby.—Trodden Down. A Novel. By Mrs. C. J.

Newby. 8', pp. 152. Pap. 50 c Peterson.

*Palmer.—A History of the Jewish Nation, from the Earliest Period to the Present Day. By E. H. Palmer, M.A., author of "The Desert of the Exodus," etc. With Map and Illustr. 12°, pp. 312. \$2.50. Pott, Y. & Co.

Reimensnyder.—Heavenward; or, The Race for the Crown of Lite. By Junius B. Reimensnyder, Pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Phila. 12°, pp. 127. 75.c. Lutheran Bookstore.

*Rigg.—National Education in its Social Conditions and Aspects, and Public Elementary School Education, Euglish and Foreign. By James H. Rigg, D.D., Principal of Westminster Training School, etc. 12°. \$4.50.

Routledge.

St. Germain .- The Doctor and Student; or, Dialogues between a Doctor of Divinity and a Student in the Laws of England, containing the grounds of those laws, together with Questions and Cases concerning the Equity thereof By Christopher Saint German. Revised and corrected by William Muchail. To which are added two pieces concerning outs in Chancery by Subpœna. 8°, pp. xii, 401.

*Sermons on the Epistles and Gospels for Sunday and Chief Holidays, Second Series. 2 vols. 12°, \$2.50,

Seven (The) Gray Pilgrims. A Personal Romance. By a Subaltern officer of Artillery. 12°, pp. 292. \$1.75. Williams.

Siemens, W. C. See Van Nostrand's Sc. Series.

Siemens, W. C. See van Postana.

Smith.—Characteristics of Christian Morality, By the Rev. J. Gregory Smith. (Bampton Lectures.) 8°. \$2.50.

Pott, Y. & Co.

Southworth. - Victor's Triumph. A Sequel to "A Beautiful Fiend." By Emma D. E. N. Southworth. 12°.

Toner.—Dictionary of Elevations and Climatic Register of the United States. Containing, in addition to Elevations, the Latitude, Mean Annual Temperature, and the total Annual Rainfall of many Localities. By J. M. Toner,

Tower —Instructions on Modern American Bridge Building, with Practical Applications and Examples, Estimates of Quantities, and valuable Tables. Hustr. with 4 plates and 30 figures. By G. B. N. Tower. 8°, pp. 90. \$2. Williams.

*Tyrwhitt.—The Art Teaching of the Primitive Church. With an Index of Subjects, Historic and Emblemanc. By the Rev. R. St. John Tyrwhit., M.A. Illustr. 12,

United States.—The American Corporation Cases, em-bracing the Decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, the Circuit Courts of the United States, and the Courts of Last Resort in the Several States, since January

Willie's Money Box. 16°. \$1.25.....Lothrop.

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Wood, Therapeutics, etc	Boyce, Modern Ornamentor
LUTHERAN BOOKSTORE, Phila. Reimensnyder, Heavenward	WILSTACH, BALDWIN & Co., Cincinnati. Beadle, Woman's War on Whiskey 75 c.; pap .50

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS.

BOSWORTH, CHASE & HALL, Cincinnati.

The Gospel Plan of Salvation. By Dr. T. W. Brents. 12°, pp. 672. \$2.50. (April 1.)

The Life of Elder Walter Scott, with Sketches of his Fellow Laborers, William Hayden. Adamson, Bentley, John Henry, and others. By William Baxter. 12°, pp. 450. \$2. (April 15.)

HENRY L. HINTON. New York.

Not in their Set; or, In Different Circles of Society.

Translated from the German by MS., translator of "By His

Own Right," "Must It Be?" "A Great Lady," etc. 12, pp. 350. \$1.50.

Steadfast; or, Love and Fortitude. From the German of Paul Heyse. By A. W. H. 12', pp. 350. \$1.50.

My Comrades. By Hd. H. An exciting narrative, containing interesting adventures among the Highlands, and giving, by way of episode, a melange of the History and Legendary Lore of the Hudson. Illustr. 12°, pp. 350. \$1.50.

The Maiden of Trepoi: Or. Love's Victory. From the German of Paul Heyse. By A. W. H. (Vol. 5 of the Puck Novel Series.) 16°. 75 c.

Helene Morten; or, Hidden from the World. From the German of Paul Heyse. By A. W. H. (Vol. 6 Puck Novel Series.) 16°. 75 c.

The Children of the World. By Paul Heyse.

JANSEN, McCLURG & CO., Chicago-

Sermons. By Prof. David Swing. (April 6.)

JAMES MILLER, New York-

Christ the Spirit: Being an Attempt to State the Primitive View of Christianity. By Genl. E. A. Hitchcock. 2 vols. 12°, pp. 904. \$3. (April 11.)

Aurelian; or, Rome in the Third Century. By William Ware. New ed. 12°. \$2. (April 11.)

Julian; or, Scenes in Judea. By William Ware. New ed. 12°. \$2. (April 11.)

Zenobia; or, The Fall of Palmyra. By William Ware. New ed. 12°. \$2. (April 11.)

G. J. MOULTON, 103 Fulton St., New York.

A Translation from the German of La Mara's Musikalische Gedanken-Polyphonie.

D. LOIHROP & CO., Boston-

First Explorers of North America. By Rev. Joseph Banvard, D.D.: Being vol. 2 of Library of Adventure and Adventurers. Edited by Rev. G. T. Day, D.D. \$1.50.

The Temperance Reformation: Its Claims upon the Christian Church. By arrangement with the English publishers. Being the "Temperance Prize Essay for Two Hundred and Fifty Guineas."

The Lost Purse. 75 cents.

PORTER & COATES, Phila.

Waverley; or, 'Tis Sixty Years Since. Being vol. 1 of the new Fireside Edition of the Waverley Novels. Illustr. with fine steel engr. By Sir Walter Scott. 16°. \$1.50. (April 1.) Sold only by subscription.

The Heroes of the Seven Hills. A Narrative History of Rome. By Mrs. C. H. B. Laing. Being a continuation of "The Kings of the Seven Hills." Illustr. 16°. \$1. (April 4.)

The Fox Chase. A Poem. By James Bowen Everbart. Illustr. 16°, pp. 30. \$1. (April 1.)

SCRIBNER, ARMSTRONG & CO., New York.

The Bric-a-Brac Series. Personal Reminiscences of famous Poets and Novelists, Wits and Humorists, Artists, Musicians, and the Like. Edited by Richard Henry

Stoddard. Vol. 1, Personal Reminiscences from Chorley, Planche, and Young. Sq. 12°. \$1.50. (April).

Publishers' First Announcements.

From the New York Commercial Advertiser for the week ending March 23.

MARCH 17.

Roberts Bros.: - Poems, by F. W. Bourdillon, new first collected.

Porter & Coates: - Between Father and Son, from the German of Carl Detlef.

MARCH 18.

James R. Osgood & Co.:-Idolatry, a novel, by Julian Hawthorne.-Lettres à une inconnue, by Prosper Merimée.

Roberts Bros.:—Giuseppe Maria Campanella's Autobiography.—Mrs. Gilbert's (formerly Ann Taylor) Autobiography.—Ampère's Proménade en Amérique.

MARCH 19.

Henry Holt & Co.:—Shingleborough Society.—Gaunt Abbey.—By Sea and Land.—Under the Limes.—Barbara's Warning.—A Chronicle of Fermors.

Harper & Bros: -Wolf's Wild Animals. - Neglected. -Lord Castleton's Ward. - Webs of Love. - Disinterred. -Sanitary Arrangements for Dwellings. - The Mill Wheel. - William Mellish.

Scribner, Armstrong & Co.: For Love and Life, by Mrs. Oliphant.

MARCH 20.

A. D. F. Randolph & Co.:-Neglected, a story of Nursery Education Thirty Years Ago.

Porter & Coates: -The Salt of the Earth, by Edward Garrett. -Principles of Mental Physiology, by W. B. Carpenter.

MARCH 21.

James R. Osgood & Co.:—Cruel Constancy.—The Magic of Love.—Over the Furze.—The Thorntons of Thorn ury.—Disinterred.—Born to be a Lady.—Webs of Love.—Lord Castleton's Ward.—Neglected.—Dr. Middeton's Daughter.—'Twixt Cup and Lip.—John Fenn's Wife.—Shingleborough Society.—Gaunt Abbey.—Chaste as Ice, Pure as Snow.—The Mill Wheel.—A Many Colored Bubble.—Sketches in Italy and Greece.

MARCH 23.

A. D. F. Randolph & Co.:—The Changed Cross, by the Hon. Mrs. Charles Hobart, née L. P. W., with illustr. by H. I. C. Miles.

Sunday-School Books.

A CORRESPONDENT presents in another column some views on the prices of Sunday-school books, a subject which is one of the perplexities of the trade. He urges a reform in prices in this direction, which is simply one phase of the general reform so strongly advocated by us and put in shape at the Cincinnati Convention. Mr. A. F. Graves, of Boston, is now moving personally in this matter, and has already procured a number of signatures binding to an agreement that the best terms on this class of books should be 50 off on purchases of over \$500, and 40 and 10 on less, no further allowances to be made. This is a step in the right direction, but "please, sir, such a very little one." It would be much better to set the discount at a third and have done with it.

The chief difficulty in this matter comes of the complication of the religious publishing societies with the general trade. These publication houses, so far as they are charitable and missionary in organization, do not come within trade lines, and cannot be expected to look at matters of price from the trade point of view. Their precise purpose is, as nearly as possible to give

away books, and the trade can "compete" only indirectly, by publishing books that Sundayschools must have, though at the higher price. The work of the Bible Society, for instance, is a glorious work, that no private publisher can for a moment take exception to; yet, notwithstanding it sells one copy or a thousand at what is really less than cost, for it includes no rent in its prices, there is still a tremendous private trade in Bibles. These limits of the trade must be recognized as facts; the publisher must see that he is not able and ought not to be able to restrict the giving away of books of this sort. There is a considerable margin for him outside even in the Sunday-school field, and he can best improve this by the reform we have suggested for the general trade.

A CORRESPONDENT desires us to impress upon all publishers and jobbers the necessity of keeping at hand a copy of the "Telegraphic Index" issued by Lippincott & Co. The suggestion is a good one, but for this very important point—that the "Index" is an individual enterprise of the Messrs. Lippincott, and that it would seem

that the benefits of it should accrue to them by the telegraphic orders being sent to their house.

THE subscriptions to the "Finding List" have not quite reached half the desired amount so far, and we fear that the cost of procuring the balance of the needed subscriptions would come to more than we can afford to put at risk We cannot do for the trade what it does not prove practically that it wants done. If the present subscriptions were doubled throughout, we should have nearly enough guaranteed to commence on, and Mr. Patterson proposes to make an effort to secure this. It is understood that the American News Co, which has always fully appreciated the need and usefulness of such a work, stands ready to make its subscription \$500, so soon as that will probably secure the publication of the list. If others would do as well, we might begin the work at once.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The interests of the trade cannot be better served than by a full discussion by its members of all questions which affect it. Our columns are always open to communications on any such subject, provided they be brief and suggestive, and we cordially invite the trade to express any suggestions or opinions of interest or value in "Letters to the Editor."

Sunday-School Books.

SCRANTON, PA., March 15, 1874.

To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly.

DEAR SIR: Although the recent convention at Cincinnati was so largely composed of Western booksellers, it must not be inferred that it is a movement by the Western dealers alone.

Perhaps it is better for the success of the combination that the meeting should be free from any of the influences which would almost certainly shadow it if it had been held at the East, and in the vicinity of the large publishing and jobbing houses.

To be successful, a free interchange of opinions must first pass among the booksellers themselves. Of the three parties composing the book-handling trade—viz., the publishers, the booksellers, and the people—the middle men are the retail dealers. The large houses of the city know but little of the hundred and one causes of complaint which the country dealers are seeking to remedy. They know that the book trade is nearly demoralized, and that it is largely supplemented by outside branches of business. A bookstore proper cannot live on the profits of the books, in one of a hundred places that nominally suppose they are doing so.

As the spring is so nearly upon us, I want to call the attention of the booksellers and interested parties to the grievance of the "Sunday-school book" trade. I believe that I have the sympathy of the larger part of fellow-laborers. By generally accepted opinion, the four leading religious publishing houses were founded with the intention of supplying religious reading of every sort to the needy at the lowest possible price, or tax, I will

say. This is theoretical, yet we shall see how far this is true. Each of four large and powerful denominations publish Sunday-school libraries. Let us see at what cost. I, as a dealer, buy them at 33 1-3 or 40 per cent off, and place them on my shelves, innocently, we will suppose, thinking I am entitled to that percentage for risks, losses, and expenses of my store. The first customer and expenses of my store. who calls for a selection of these books is a plain, simple-minded appearing man from the country. In response to the prices I ask, he demands the discounts I offer. I say, if I say correctly, "My dear sir, these are religious books, and published - Society for the use you wish them for. It is not a money-making concern, as is the house of Messrs. —, or —, and they offer the books at the low margin of the advertised price in order to help educate and improve the minds of the people. They are missionaries." "Yes," is the reply, "but they offer me just these same books at 25 per cent. off these same prices." Now here is a fraud, even if not something more. I am expected to bear every expense and risk as a bookseller, and compete with - Society, who desire to sell a country Sunday-school \$20 worth of books. To be successful in competition I am compelled to be unsuccessful as a merchant. Suppose I refuse to deduct the same liberal discounts, why, my country customer replies, Brother A or B tells him he can get all the books for him at 30 per cent. off and he pay the express.

This is all wrong, and is one of the things which the book trade must meet, discuss, and rule as being out of order in the reform they are demanding for the new order of things. The discussion of these and similar wrongs must take place before the large dealers are invited to join

action with the retail-book men.

Others are discussing the book agents, as found in the middle men in our colleges, seminaries, schools, teachers, clergymen, or travelling impecuniosities. My point is to reach the so-called cheap religious publishing societies, who receive the contributions of the churches and legacies of their dying friends in order to furnish reading cheap. Unlike the Bible Society, they do not do this at the lowest rate, but at 30 per cent. more than they can afford to.

The arrangement creates dissatisfaction, really preventing any interest which booksellers might have in promoting the use of their books. No one who does not bear the risks and labors of dealers should expect a single cent off from regular published prices. If chips must fall when hewing is done, then let these fall where they will. Let these large discounts cease, and I guarantee that these library books could be sold at 20 per cent. less price and still leave booksellers a

remunerative profit.

H

Two or Three Points.

SCRANTON, PA., March 17, 1874.

To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly.

Siz: Have you any extra copies of "Uniform Trade List" left? We have only one left, and that we have to loan occasionally, and teel lost without it; it is one of the most useful and necessary articles of furniture we have in the store.

Would you be surprised to know that . . . offer books out of their retail department to consumers at 33 1-3 per cent? I saw a letter from them a few days ago to a gentleman that is about buying about \$1,000 worth miscellaneous books

for a private association library, to whom they made the above offer, which is as good as they give the trade on many good lines, and within five per cent. of their best discount to the trade on their own and some other lines. At this rate, the country book trade will be of short duration-in fact, now, our sales, outside of Christmas trade, do not pay interest on the investment. Another gentleman called on us a few days ago to inquire what we could do on \$25 to \$50 worth miscellaneous books. On getting our reply, he stated that he had been offered 25 per cent. on some and 30 per cent. on others, in the amounts named, in Philadelphia and New York. It is not natural for people to buy at home unless they can do as well as they can in New York or Philadelphia, which are only about 150 miles from here; the result is that we cannot sell such parties and make anything much on their orders...

Accept my thanks for your excellent efforts of late in trying to help reform our disgraced calling.

Very respectfully,

M. NORTON.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

SELF-CULTURE, by John Stuart Blackie. (Scribner, Armstrong & Co.) Three most excellent essays on intellectual, physical, and moral culture. The "young men and students" for whom the book is written will find it a valuable vade mecum, as it is full of wisdom and good strong common sense. 12mo, cloth, \$1.

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IOHN CHURCH & Co., of Cincinnati, have illustrated Western enterprise in a most unexpected way, by publishing a copyright edition of Liszt's cantata of "Prometheus"—the vocal score, with English and German words, and piano-forte accompaniment. The translation is by Mrs. M. L. N., of Cincinnati, the work never having appeared before, we believe, in an English dress. Type and paper are both excellent, and the appearance of the book is decidedly attractive. - Tribune.

MR. WM. BLACK promises a new story immediately.

HON. JOHN BIGELOW'S new "Life of Frankwill supplement the famous "Autobiography," which extends to 1757, with such of the philosopher-statesman's after-correspondence as will complete a memoir in autobiographical form. Franklin's letters during the later period were very numerous and important, and in the execution of his plan Mr. Bigelow has so arranged the excerpts as to form a connected narrative in Franklin's own language, throwing such explanations as were requisite into foot-notes. The work will make three volumes of 600 pages each, and is in advanced preparation at the Lippincotts'.

It is rumored that Mr. John G. Nicolay and Col. John Hay, Mr. Lincoln's private secretaries, are writing a new life of the martyr President.

"MRS. PARTINGTON" is to publish a book of verses in a subscription volume.

MR. JOHN BANVARD, best known as a panoramist, is writing "The Private Life of a King" (George IV. of England), partly from material never before used.

MR. TOM TAYLOR is the new editor of Punch.

THE Cornhill contains what the Academy calls the first articulate account yet given of the relation between Johnson's personality and his writings. The author's theory is that the age favored his expression of himself in conversation, whereas in writing his tendency to the grandiose was an an-

OLIVER DITSON'S music store, in Washington street, Boston, was burned on the evening of March 24. The loss is about \$75,000, on which there is insurance in all the companies doing business in Boston, with two or three exceptions, amounting in the aggregate to \$182,500.

MRS. MARY CLEMMER AMES' new novel of American life, "His Two Wives," is just begun in Every Saturday.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Literary World writes what has often been observed: I will say that the best punctuists are those literary men who have graduated from some printing-office. Mr. Bayard Taylor is a conspicuous example, and Professor Monroe, of Boston University. Another, Professor Swinton, of California, compiler of the series of text-books now being published by Harper & Brothers, also punctuates with good taste. I do not know whether he was a disciple of Gutenburg

or not; if not, he is the best I have known who had not the experience of printing. Cullen Bryant is also quite accurate, but I cannot say as much for Henry Ward Beecher."

THE LIBRARY CORNER.

ONE of the most interesting features of the present exhibition of the Metropolitan Art Museum is the display of early printed books.

It is said that Senator Sumner has given the Harvard College Library, within the past few years, upwards of 5,000 pamphlets and 1,000 volumes, many of them of great value. His own collection was small, but very choice.

THE Nation gives utterance to a sentiment to which every librarian, and for that matter ever reader, will say amen: "A good index to any such production is a means of making its utilit tenfold what it was; and the index-maker, however ungrateful the task may have seemed, has done the next best thing to lengthening human existence: he has enabled those who profit by his labors to save time and to concentrate their energies when otherwise they might have wasted them."

In writing of the Bucknell Library, Crozer Theological Seminary, Rev. Prof. Krauth says truly: "Next to what it has, a library is rich in what it omits. Useless books are worse than useless in a library; they are pernicious They hide and supplant the good books. They make haystacks to hide needles. A library should separate the sheep from the goats."

BULLETIN No. 28 of the Boston Public Library, a pamphlet of 44 pages, brings up the list of additions of books and alterations of place to the end of the year 1873. It also gives the information necessary in the annexation of Charlestown and Brighton. There are now five branch libraries to be cared for along with the Great Library in

MR. QUARITCH, of London, announces that he will hereafter publish simply "rough catalogues of books on sale," in place of special catalogues, and that he has in advanced preparation his general descriptive catalogue of above 20,000 volumes.

SYDNEY, New South Wales, is building a Free Public Library. So the good work goes on.

THE second series of "Lettres d'un Bibliographe" (Paris, Tross, 8vo.), illustrated with facsimiles, consists of fifteen letters, in which the author, M. Madden, describes books mostly connected with the press of the Fratres Communis Vitæ, who, he assumes, were the masters of our William Caxton. M. Madden also contends, against the opinion of all previous bibliographers, that the Bible of 36 lines, generally ascribed to Albert Pfister, of Bamberg, was undoubtedly (?) the work of Gutenberg.—Athenæum.

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